

APR 23 2004

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21669



IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor Rudolf KÜPPER et al

Patent App. 09/736,042

Filed 13 December 2000

Conf. No. 6636

For SUCTION CONTROL IN A SUCTION/BLOWING MOLD
SYSTEM

Art Unit 1732

Examiner McDowell, S

Hon. Commissioner of Patents
Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

FIRST AMENDMENT

This is in response to the Office Action mailed
23 March 2004.

Applicant herewith elects the method of claim 1, with
traverse.

A reading of the method and apparatus claims here will
reveal that they are virtually identical scope. The examiner's
statement that the apparatus could be operated so as not to prac-
tice the instant invention is specious. This is similar to saying
that the apparatus could be used as a mooring block, so that
restriction is appropriate. Instead the claims should be read for

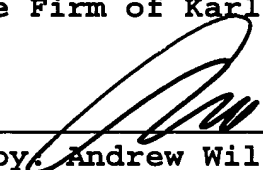
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Pat. App. 09/736,042

what they say, and here the apparatus and method claims are merely different reflections of the same exact invention.

Accordingly the restriction requirement should be withdrawn and all claims should be subject to examination.

Respectfully submitted,
The Firm of Karl F. Ross P.C.


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Enclosure: None.